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STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVENING DAILY

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MYSURU Sunday 16th March 2025
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MYSORE'S BEST

Zoo rejects Rs. 18 crore Karanji Lake tourism plan

Tourism Department urged to take over half-finished aquarium project

A view of Karanji Lake Nature Park adjacent to Mysuru Zoo this morning.

Mysuru, Mar. 16 (MTY&BCT)- The Mysuru Zoo (Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens) has rejected the Tourism Department's proposal to develop Karanji Lake Nature Park as a tourist destination, citing environmental concerns and potential commercial exploitation that could harm the fragile ecosystem.

Instead, the Zoo authorities have suggested that the Tourism Department revive the abandoned aquarium project and transform it into a major tourist attraction with a revenue sharing model.

The Tourism Department had proposed a Rs. 18 crore project to develop the Karanji Lake Nature Park, which included: an internal connection between the Zoo and Karanji Lake, a flyover footpath allowing tourists to walk over the lake and enjoy its scenic beauty and a Zip Line adventure activity over Karanji Lake.

However, Mysuru Zoo Executive Director Rangaswamy made it clear that such developments violate strict environmental guidelines set by the Central Zoo Authority (CZA) and the Zoo Authority of Karnataka (ZAK).

A Zoo must remain a Zoo

"The Mysuru Zoo, along with CZA and ZAK, has rejected the Rs. 18 crore project outright," Rangaswamy told *Star of Mysore*.

"A Zoo must remain a Zoo and Karanji Lake is an eco-sensitive zone. We cannot permit any construction that encourages excessive tourism and exploitation of this fragile habitat," he noted.

Rather than interfering with Karanji Lake, the Zoo has urged the Tourism Department to take over the incomplete Zoo Aquarium project.

(See KARANJI LAKE on page 6)

Boy dies after eating Holi dinner at Malavalli school

28 students hospitalised; food poisoning suspected

Children affected by food poisoning being treated at Mandya Institute of Medical Sciences.

Mandya, Mar. 16 (MR&BCT)- A 13-year-old student from the residential school of Gokul Educational Institution in T. Kagepura village, Malavalli taluk, died after consuming food distributed at the hostel on Friday night.

The food, leftover from a Holi celebration organised elsewhere by a businessman, was served to the students. Following the meal, 28 other students fell ill, experiencing severe vomiting, diarrhoea and dehydration.

The deceased student has been identified as Kerlang from Meghalaya, a sixth-standard student.

(See HOLI DINNER on page 7)

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STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Sunday 16th March 2025

Two-day Natl. Conference on 'Consumer Behaviour'

Mysuru, Mar. 16- The Department of Commerce, Teresian College, in association with the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), has organised a 2-day National Conference on 'Consumer Behaviour: Trends and Challenges' on Mar. 17 and 18.

Prof. N.K. Lokanath, Vice-Chancellor, University of Mysore (UoM), will inaugurate the Conference on Mar. 17 at 10 am at the College premises in Siddarthanagar here.

Dr. Sr. Juanita, Director; Dr. Sr. Rohini, Principal; Dr. Veena M. D'Almeida, Head, Department of Commerce; Dr. P.M. Shivaprasad, Co-ordinator; W. Arun Devapura, Organising Secretary, along with other dignitaries, will attend the inaugural session.

Over the course of these two days, distinguished academicians and scholars will present insightful talks on the evolving trends and challenges in Consumer Behaviour.

Prof. K. Maran, Director, Sri Sairam Institute of Management Studies, Chennai, will deliver a talk on 'Ripple Effect of Consumerism: Business, Economy and Society'; Dr. K. Nagendra Babu, Professor and Dean, Department of Studies in Commerce, UoM, will address on '21st Century Consumerism.'

Additionally, J. Jaya Prakash, a renowned Advocate from Mysuru, will discuss 'Consumer Protection: Trends and Challenges.'

The paper presentation sessions will be chaired by Dr. M. Girish Kumar, Assistant Professor and Head, Bhandari and Rathi College, Guledgudd, Bagalkot and Dr. G. Anand Kumar, Assistant Professor, Government FGC, Muniyal, Udupi.

The valedictory ceremony will be held on Mar. 18 at 3.30 pm.

For details, contact Ph: 0821-2471316 or Mob: 73493-76992.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

UNLOCKING THE POWER OF INNER REFLECTION: ***The stories of Nasrudin are very amusing, but one has to take the time to reflect on them to observe the inconsistencies we often practice on a day-to-day basis. One night Nasrudin's neighbour, Jalami, found Nasrudin on his hands and knees under a street lamp searching for his house keys. Wanting to be of help, Jalami joined Nasrudin on the ground, and together they poked about in the grass, but to no avail. After a time, Jalami asked Nasrudin, 'Do you remember where you were standing when you dropped the keys?' 'Yes,' answered Nasrudin, 'over there,' and pointed to a tree 30 feet from the lamp. 'Then why are you looking here?' 'Because,' replied Nasrudin, 'there is more light here.'***

It is indeed very tempting to look for easy answers to life's problems, and we often do exactly that. Instead of using our common sense and inner wisdom to face our fears and solve our problems, we create endless errands.

To avoid protracted struggles, we engage in projects, meetings, emergencies, dramas, and other excuses to keep ourselves occupied. We have no time to devote to the true way of solving the problem.

There are three reasons for this kind of behaviour — fear, ignorance, and lack of will. There is, for example, the straying husband who will hide his infidelity from his wife with non-existent work at the office. He fears the after-effects of revealing the truth. Ignorance can often drive people with symptoms of a serious disease to a quack or charlatan. Lack of will can stop us from breaking a bad habit such as drinking or smoking to excess. The bottom line in all these cases is, 'If I keep busy, I won't have to look at what is frightening me.'

But enlightenment and clear thinking are an inside job. Doing more in the outer world will not solve problems and bring peace. Peace will come by letting go of distractions and working sincerely to gain worthy goals. We have to let go of everything that distracts us from what is best for us. The only solution is to look within and reflect. Once we determine to look within, we will find the light and bring a stop to living in the shadows. —*Leela Ramaswamy in Deccan Herald*

NEWS SPARKLERS

The world's highest garbage mountain

New Delhi: Known as the Garbage Mountain of Delhi, Ghazipur Landfill covers an area of about 70 acres (over 50 football) and is almost as tall as the iconic Taj Mahal.

Established in 1984, on the outskirts of Ghazipur, in the eastern district of Delhi, Ghazipur Landfill reached its maximum capacity in 2002, but it has since grown into a small mountain up to 72 meters high. It is already one of the world's largest landfills, but it continues to receive hundreds of tons of garbage from Delhi every day and is expected to grow even more. Consisting of more than 14 million metric tonnes of waste, Ghazipur Landfill has long been a plague on the millions of people who call Delhi home. The stench it emanates is almost unbearable, especially in the summer, fires routinely break out engulfing the surrounding area in a thick, toxic smoke and its winding slopes sometimes collapse burying people and vehicles under millions of tons of garbage.

Wedge-shaped house sells for 3,50,000 dollars

Deerfield: An unusual Illinois home dubbed the "pie house" due to its wedge shape sold for 3,50,000 dollars shortly after being put on the market.

The home in Deerfield, a northern suburb of Chicago, was built in 2003 and initially drew the ire of neighbours who complained about its unusual appearance.

The house, which boasts 1,600 square feet of living space includes two bedrooms, one upstairs and one in the basement, as well as 2 1/2 bathrooms, a paver brick walkway, a storage shed and a parking pad with room for up to four vehicles.

The house previously sold for $300,000 in 2004, $284,500 in 2007, $260,000 in 2020 and $295,000 in 2021.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Why Sleep Matters?

Quality sleep is essential for physical and mental well-being. It boosts immunity, improves memory, and helps regulate mood. Poor sleep can increase the risk of chronic conditions like heart disease and diabetes.

By Dr. Lakshmi Narasimhan R. - Consultant – Pulmonology
Manipal Hospital, Mysore

manipalhospitals
LIFE'S ON

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

Wins NSS State Award

Mysuru, Mar. 16- Dr. T. Ramesh, the NSS Programme Officer of Basudev Somani College, Kuvempunagar, Mysuru, has bagged the 'Best NSS Programme Officer' State Award for the year 2022-23 and Basudev Somani College has won the 'Best NSS Unit' State Award given by the National Service Scheme (NSS) Unit, Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports (DYES).

Dr. T. Ramesh

Dr. T. Ramesh and College Principal Dr. M. Mahadevaswamy will receive the Awards from Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot at a programme to be held at Raj Bhavan in Bengaluru tomorrow (Mar. 17).

The other awardees of the district are: G. Rekha of Teresian College, Mysuru (Best NSS Programme Officer), C. Tejas of Sri D. Devaraj Urs First Grade College, Hunsur (Best Volunteer) and Latha Singh of Sesadripuram Degree College, Mysuru (Best Volunteer), according to a press release.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM	KABINI DAM	HARANGI DAM
Maximum **124.80 feet**	Maximum **2,284 feet**	Maximum **2,859 feet**
Today's level **109.93 feet**	Today's level **2,271.37 feet**	Today's level **2,834.67 feet**
Last year's level **87.78 feet**	Last year's level **2,267.47 feet**	Last year's level **2,829.85 feet**
Yesterday's level **110.28 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,271.55 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,834.73 feet**
Today's Inflow **86 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **57 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **60 cusecs**
Today's Outflow **4,036 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **1,000 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **100 cusecs**

REALLY...?

- ***Ants don't have lungs. They instead breathe through spiracles, nine or ten tiny openings, depending on the species.***
- ***Ants don't have the room to accommodate a complex respiratory system such as ours. Instead, they have their own ways of respiration to help transport oxygen around their bodies.***
- ***Unlike other pests such as rats, ants don't have ears. But that doesn't mean they are deaf. Ants use vibrations to hear, using them when foraging for food or as an alarm signal.***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

*"I have been with you for 27 years," **said the hired man** "and I have never asked you for a rise before."*

*"That," **returned the farmer,** "Is the only reason you have been here 27 years."*

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= **Rs. 86.95**
1 UK Pound	= **Rs. 112.53**
1 UAE Dirham	= **Rs. 23.67**
1 Euro	= **Rs. 94.63**

VOICE OF THE READER

Provide proper lighting facility at bus shelters

Sir,

I am a senior citizen and a frequent commuter on city buses. I have observed that most bus shelters in Mysuru lack proper lighting, forcing passengers — including women, children and senior citizens like me — to wait in complete darkness, often with a sense of insecurity, until the bus arrives.

Several bus shelters urgently need lighting, including those near Mysuru Akashvani, Yadavagiri, Dasappa Circle, Railway Station, K.R. Hospital, Agrahara, Siddappa Square, Chamundipuram, Vishweshwaranagar Ganapathi Temple, Maharshi Public School, J.P. Nagar Shaneshwara Temple, Goblimara and Kavitha Bakery.

I urge the MCC Commissioner and the MLAs concerned to address this issue on priority and ensure that these bus shelters are equipped with proper lighting at the earliest.

—Savithramma,
Retd. Teacher

Yadavagiri
24.2.2025

40% Commission allegations by contractors Justice H.N. Nagamohan Das Committee submits report

Justice H.N. Nagamohan Das is seen submitting the Commission's Report to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in Bengaluru recently.

Bengaluru, Mar. 16 (VNS)- Justice H.N. Nagamohan Das Commission, probing into allegations of 40% commission charged by previous BJP State Government, submitted its report to CM Siddaramaiah recently.

A detailed report into allegations made by Karnataka State Contractors Association and also an investigation report on modernisation of sub/slot canals 01 to 18 constructed across Narayanapura right main canal in Raichur was handed to the CM.

Justice Das, who met the Chief Minister and Chief Secretary Shalini Rajaneesh, submitted a 20,000-page report on allegations made by Contractors Association and 1,800-page investigation report on modernisation of Narayanapura Canal.

The Association had also requested an investigation into issues such as the abandonment of package system, fixation of Schedule of Rates (SR) list, implementation of star rate system, ensuring transparency in tendering, bill payments based on seniority and preventing direct award of works to contractors through Karnataka Rural Infrastructure Development Limited (KRIDL). The Commission investigated in detail into allegations made by the Association and has also considered the complaints and suggestions by general public since the probe was related to public works.

Apart from probing '40% commission' allegation, the Commission has also investigated into the works carried out by BBMP, BDA, Departments of Public Works, Rural Development & Panchayat Raj and Water Resources between July 26, 2019 and Mar. 31, 2023 as requested by the present Congress Govt.

The report also mentions the investigation of works includes aspects of inspection of files, site inspection & audit of accounts. A Technical Expert Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Siddagangappa, a retired Secretary to the Government, to investigate and submit a report on the technical deficiencies incorporated in the sanctioned estimate papers regarding modernisation package works of the sub/slot canal from 01 to 18 constructed across the Narayanpura right bank main canal. Commission has conducted an inquiry in addition to Dissolution Commission of Inquiry and has submitted a report.

'Consumers must remain vigilant against fraud'

District Consumer Disputes Redressal Forum President at World Consumer Rights Day

Mysuru, Mar. 16 (BLU&BCT)- The Mysore Grahakara Parishad (MGP) organised World Consumer Rights Day celebrations at Basudev Somani College, where District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission President Naveen Kumari urged consumers to remain vigilant against fraud.

She emphasised that fraudsters often exploit greed, making it essential for consumers to exercise caution while making purchases.

"A consumer must ensure the quality of the goods and services they purchase. If discrepancies arise, they should seek legal assistance to attain justice," she stated. She further highlighted that consumer awareness about their rights helps in preventing issues related to product quality, adulteration and service deficiencies.

Assistant Director of Karnataka Food and Civil Supplies, Pratik G. Hegde, and MGP Convener, Dayananda Sagar, addressed the students, stressing the importance of consumer empowerment.

They encouraged students to assert their fundamental right as "the supreme king in the marketplace" and to demand proper treatment as "masters, not servants" in Government offices.

Naveen Kumari also engaged in an interactive session with students, explaining how consumer disputes can be resolved swiftly without adjournments and without legal representation.

B.G. Dinesh, Member-Secretary of the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), urged students to develop a scientific mindset, while Maruti H. Vaddar, Member of the District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission and Kumuda Sharath, Joint Director of the Department of Food and Civil Supplies, were also present. Other dignitaries included Dr. M. Puttaswamy, President of Basudev Somani College, and Dr. M. Mahadevaswamy, the Principal.

The event highlighted the urgent need to strengthen the Consumer Movement in Mysuru through regular awareness programmes conducted by NGOs and the District Administration at educational institutions, Trade Associations and public sector organisations.

As part of the celebrations, MGP also held a World Consumer Day programme at the NSS camp in Hunaganahalli, organised by Siddarthanagar First Grade College on Mar. 4. The interaction revealed that while students had some knowledge of the Consumer Protection Act, they were unfamiliar with the core philosophy of the Consumer Movement — that consumers should be treated as kings.

Swachhata Abhiyan by SBI Pensioners' Association

Mysuru, Mar. 16 (BCT)- Members of the Mysuru Unit of SBI Pensioners' Association actively participated in a Swachhata Abhiyan yesterday in front of their Administrative Office at Saraswathipuram. They cleaned up plastic waste around the office campus and the adjacent public road.

Association President Anandamurthy and Secretary Ranganath emphasised the importance of maintaining cleanliness to help Mysuru reclaim the top rank in cleanliness.

They stated that leading by example through active participation in Swachhata Abhiyan is far more effective than merely issuing statements.

MCC Assistant Commissioner Mahesh Jigani, Environmental Engineer Sridevi and Inspector Prakash expressed their gratitude to the SBI pensioners.

They noted that the involvement of a reputed institution like the State Bank of India, especially its senior members, plays a significant role in raising public awareness about cleanliness.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY SPECIAL...

Tender Coconuts, Tough Spirit

Mysuru's woman tender coconut vendor defies financial odds through resilience

By S.P. Nanjappa

On International Women's Day (Mar.8), we celebrate stories of courage, perseverance and self-reliance — qualities that define Nagamma, a 60-year-old roadside tender coconut seller in Mysuru city.

From facing personal loss to becoming a successful entrepreneur, she has carved her own path in a field dominated by men, proving that age and gender are no barriers to financial independence.

Hailing from K. Goudagere village in Keragodu Hobli, Mandya, Nagamma's journey began decades ago when she married Lokesh and moved to Mysuru in search of a livelihood. The couple started selling tender coconuts near Union Bank of India, close to Niveditanagar Arch on New Kantharaj Urs Road.

"We started small," Nagamma recalls. "I used to help my husband by chopping the tops of tender coconuts and making holes for customers to sip the water. Over time, our business grew and we were selling nearly 200 coconuts a day."

But three years ago, tragedy struck. Lokesh fell ill and passed away, leaving Nagamma to navigate life — and business — alone. Undeterred, she decided to continue the work they had started.

"I had no choice but to keep going. Today, I run this business with confidence and one of my sons, who sells tender coconuts from his autorickshaw, has also joined in, helping to expand our reach," she says with pride.

Beyond her entrepreneurial spirit, Nagamma has a deep-rooted passion for theatre. She fondly remembers the days in Goudagere when her husband acted in mythological plays like *Shanimahatma* and *Kurukshetra*.

The 60-year-old Nagamma chopping a tender coconut at her roadside stall in Mysuru city.

Watching him perform, she too was drawn to the stage and played minor roles. Though her dream of acting in significant roles remains unfulfilled due to age, her love for theatre persists.

Now residing in Janathanagar, she remains committed to her business. "Every day, I start work at 7.30 am and wind up by 6 pm, after which my son takes over. Once home, I focus on my household chores," she says, balancing her responsibilities with quiet determination.

Nagamma's story is a testament to resilience and adaptability, showing that when life throws challenges, the best response is to rise stronger.

This Women's Day, she stands as an inspiration to many — proving that true strength lies in embracing life's uncertainties and turning them into opportunities.

'Women should create their own identity'

M.K. Savitha, Registrar, University of Mysore, seen lighting the lamp as Dr. Rechanna, Principal, JSS College for Women, chief guests Sindhura Gangadhar, Prof. Padma Shekar and others look on.

Mysuru, Mar. 16- "Women have to be strong and confident in order to make a mark in the patriarchal society," said M.K. Savitha, KAS, Registrar (Administrative), University of Mysore.

Addressing the gathering after inaugurating the International Women's Day celebrations at JSS College for Women, Saraswathipuram, recently, she suggested that the society should create a fearless environment for women as they play a very significant role in strengthening the nation.

Presiding over the function, Prof. Padma Shekar, former Vice-Chancellor, Karnataka Sanskrit University, said that women and men should go together to maintain balance in the society. She opined that women were more compassionate than men and it made them special. She also spoke about the importance of maintaining work-life balance between men and women to protect the rights of women.

Chief guest Sindhura Gangadhar, Senior News Presenter, Power TV, Bengaluru, expressed her happiness to be a part of the celebration being an alumnus of this institution. She stated that the only way to be independent was to be educated.

Dr. Rechanna, Principal, staff members and students attended the programme. N. Nagalambike, Convener, Youth Red Cross and Head, Department of Geography, welcomed.

P. Vasumathi, Convener, Women Empowerment Cell and Head, Department of English, proposed the vote of thanks. Vidya and Group rendered the invocation. J. Pushpalatha, Assistant Professor, Department of Kannada, compered the event which concluded with cultural programmes.

State 'Tourist Mitras' to ensure visitor safety

Tourism Joint Director felicitated in city

Joint Director of Tourism Department H.P. Janardhan was felicitated during a lecture on 'Karnataka Tourism Policy 2024-29' organised in the city yesterday as** (from left) **Dhatri Bharadwaj, M.L. Nagesh, C.A. Jayakumar, K.B. Lingaraju, Sabu Varghese, B.S. Prashanth, Samarth Vaidya, Unnikrishnan, S.J. Ashok, B.P. Prajwal and Ramyashree look on.

Mysuru, Mar. 16 (MK&BS)- Joint Director (JD) of Tourism Department H.P. Janardhan has said, the State Government has introduced Tourist Mitra scheme and the approval has been given in the recent State Budget for the recruitment of 1,000 Tourist Mitras. He was addressing the gathering while delivering a lecture on the topic 'Karnataka Tourism Policy- 2024-29', organised by SCAL International Mysuru division at the auditorium of Mysuru District Hotel Owners Association at Krishnamurthypuram in the city yesterday.

Karnataka holds the pride of being the first State to implement the Tourist Mitra scheme, that aims to lay more emphasis on the safety and security of tourists, along with setting up a 24x7 helpline to address the query of tourists. "The stakeholders of tourism like hoteliers, tours and travel agents should apprise the central office of Tourism Department with available information, that will be coalesced for establishing the digital grid, to cater to the tourists. The information related to public and private museums and other facilities shall benefit tourists," he explained.

A target has been set to attract investment of Rs.7,800 crore towards tourism sector, with the department having ambitious plan to implement Monuments Adoption Scheme, under which it is aimed to conserve over 1,000 monuments. The entrepreneurs should join hands with the Government by adopting the monuments. State Government has announced a subsidy of Rs. 1,350 crore to the tourism sector in the last five years. If not utilised, the funds will lapse, but won't be a loss to the Government, but for the tourism sector.

"Whenever we go abroad, we promote Mysuru, as the city holds much significance that signifies Karnataka State. Mysuru Dasara, Mysore Palace and Chamundi Hill are among notable tourist spots of the city," he said.

The size of the budget for Tourism Department is growing year on year, but still there is a need to hone up the skills by conducting training sessions.

Post COVID-19 pandemic, there is a slump in the volume of foreign tourists visiting the State including Mysuru. There is a need to discuss and find solutions, which otherwise may take the tourism sector towards crisis. About foreign 50,000 tourists have visited Koppal this year, but the footfalls of same tourists at Hampi is low. Amid this, there is a surge in the number of domestic tourists, which is a good sign. The foreign tourists prefer to explore the States for 15 to 20 days. The new offers should be introduced to attract domestic tourists to tourist spots daily, he advised.

President of Mysore Travel Agents Association B.S. Prashanth delivered the introductory address.

Assistant Director of Tourism Department Prabhuswamy, President of Mysuru District Hotel Owners Association C. Narayanagowda, President of SKAL International Mysuru C.A. Jayakumar, President of Mysore Chamber of Commerce and Industries (MCCI) K.B. Lingaraju and President of Mysuru Guides Association S.J. Ashok were present on the occasion.

Rural properties to get B Khatas

Bengaluru, Mar. 16 (KMS & DM)- The State Cabinet meeting held on Thursday approved 3 key bills, including the Karnataka Gram Swaraj and Panchayat Raj (Amendment) Bill-2025, which aims to bring nearly 90 lakh unauthorised properties into the tax net by issuing B Khatas.

The decision, which applies to Urban and Rural areas outside Bengaluru, will enable Gram Panchayats to collect property tax. These properties will now be brought under the Government's E-Khata regime. The move is in line with the policy of Bengaluru's BBMP, which is already issuing B-Khatas to unauthorised properties in its jurisdiction.

The Cabinet also cleared the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurements (Amendment) Bill-2025, which proposes 4% reservation for Muslim contractors in Government tenders up to Rs.1 crore and Agricultural Sciences Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2025, which facilitates establishment of an integrated Agriculture-Horticulture University at VC Farm near Mandya.

This apart, Cabinet is also learnt to have discussed a proposal to give 4.24 acres of land belonging to Agriculture Department, Hebbal, Bengaluru, for International Flower Auction on a rent-free basis for two years.

The other Cabinet decisions taken included Rs. 21.5 crore for distribution of nearly 27,000 growth monitoring kits for Anganwadis, Execution of State Action Plan on Climate Change-V2 and allotment of Rs. 39.2 crore for development of 22 rural roads under PM-Janman scheme.

KPSC reforms

The Cabinet also approved some measures to reform the Karnataka Public Service Commission (KPSC), which has been under attack on several fronts.

The Cabinet decided to reduce the number of KPSC members from 16 to 8. Based on the recommendations of the Hota Committee, it was decided to set up a Search Committee to appoint KPSC members. Also, an Expert Committee will be formed to suggest further measures to revamp the KPSC.

Meanwhile, during the meeting, CM Siddaramaiah is said to have apprised the Cabinet members on the report submitted by Justice Nagamohan Das Commission on allegations of 40 percent commission against the previous BJP Government.

Temporary fix

for damaged culvert on Mysuru-Manandavadi Road

Mysuru, Mar. 16 (SBD, BS & BCT)- A damaged culvert on Mysuru-Manandavadi Road near the Centenary Hall of Karnataka Silk Industries Corporation (KSIC) Ltd. has become a serious threat to commuters and pedestrians alike.

The metal crash guard on the culvert of a large drain is severely damaged, and the interlocking tiles on the footpath are caving in. The structure could collapse at any moment, endangering lives.

However, the Krishnaraja Traffic Police acted swiftly to prevent any accidents. Upon noticing the danger, the Police immediately installed barricades and caution tape around the damaged section, alerting road users.

Under the directions of Traffic ACP M. Shivashankar, Krishnaraja Traffic Station Inspector Mahadevaswamy and his team rushed to the spot and took immediate action to prevent accidents. Their proactive response has been appreciated by the public, who have urged concerned authorities to expedite permanent repairs before a tragedy occurs.

While the temporary barricading serves as an immediate safety measure, it is not a long-term solution. Authorities must act without delay to restore the metal crash guard and reinforce the footpath before the situation worsens.

A critical stretch with heavy traffic

Mysuru-Manandavadi Road is a crucial Highway linking Kerala, H.D. Kote and villages in Mysuru taluk. The stretch from M.N. Srinivas Circle (Five Light Circle) to JLB Road sees a constant flow of KSRTC buses, goods vehicles, lorries and private vehicles.

The culvert's location adds to the risk factor, as riders must negotiate a curve after passing the damaged section. With the concrete median separating traffic lanes and high-speed vehicles arriving from B. Basavalingappa Circle, the potential for accidents is high — especially with vehicles making right turns towards the nearby college.

Cycle track parking issue

Meanwhile, the Mar. 13 edition of *Star of Mysore* exposed the misuse of the cycle track on Vishwamanava Double Road, where vehicles were being parked illegally.

The report, titled "Cycle track or parking spot? System failure exposed," featured an image of a young cyclist standing beside her bicycle, dismayed by the encroachment.

Responding promptly, Traffic ACP Shivashankar instructed his team to take action. The Krishnaraja Traffic Police have since installed notices prohibiting vehicle parking on the cycle track and are ensuring strict vigilance during their patrols to prevent further violations.

Former Tourism Joint Director feted for proactive role

University of Mysore Registrar M.K. Savitha being felicitated by tourism industry stakeholders at function held in Hotel Mayura Hoysala on JLB Road in city yesterday. Others seen are Acting Joint Director of Tourism Department K. Rudresh, Mysore Travels Association President B.S. Prashanth, Sri Chamundeshwari Kshetra Development Authority Secretary M.J. Roopa, MCCI President K.B. Lingaraju, SKAL International Mysuru President C.A. Jayakumar, Sri Hari of GSS Foundation and Bharath Gowda of Mysore Santhe.

Mysuru, Mar. 16 (MK&BS)- University of Mysore (UoM) Registrar M.K. Savitha, who did a commendable service as the Joint Director (JD) of Tourism Department during her previous stint, was felicitated by tourism industry stakeholders at an event organised jointly by Mysuru District Hotel Owners Association, SKAL International, Mysuru Guides Association and Mysore Travel Association (MTA), at Hotel Mayura Hoysala on JLB Road in city on Friday.

In her address, Savitha said, the cultural tourism of Mysuru should get a further fillip to realise with the co-operation of direct stakeholders of tourism — hotel owners, travel agents, industrialists and guides — is essential.

"After assuming charge as Joint Director of Tourism Department, I understood that the mere reliance on the department won't prove conducive in taking up development works. Hence, I sought the co-operation of stakeholders of tourism," she said.

Several innovative events like Mysuru Fest, Mysuru Brand promotion campaign and World Tourism Day celebrations were successfully conducted, which was possible due to the team effort of stakeholders and officers and staff of the Tourism Department, added Savitha.

Referring to the recent incident of gang rape of two women including a foreign tourist at Hampi, Savitha said, such incidents will have a cascading effect on Tourism Department. A black mark is enough to suffer a hindrance. Hence, it is pivotal to restore confidence in the tourists, said Savitha.

In his address, President of Hotel Owners Association C. Narayanagowda said, Savitha as the Joint Director of Tourism Department, has made significant contributions to tourism development of Mysuru. The World Tourism Day organised under the leadership of Savitha, was a model event in the State, with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah inaugurating the event.

She gave a new direction to tourism in the city, by hosting Mysuru Fest and several other innovative events.

Acting Joint Director of Tourism Department K. Rudresh said, while in office Savitha brought recognition to Mysuru Division of Tourism Department in the State. A week ago, the Government has sanctioned Rs. 18 crore for the development of Karanji Lake Nature Park and the credit should go to her.

Jacket was distributed to Tourist Mitras on the occasion.

President of Mysore Travels Association B.S. Prashanth, Secretary of Sri Chamundeshwari Kshetra Development Authority M.J. Roopa, President of SKAL International Mysuru C.A. Jayakumar, Assistant Director of Education Department Prashanth, President of Mysore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) K.B. Lingaraju, D. Srihari of GSS, President of Mysuru Guides Association Ashok and Bharath Gowda of Mysore Santhe were present.

Zoo rejects Rs. 18 crore Karanji Lake tourism plan

(Continued from page 1)

"The Tourism Department can invest between Rs. 20 crore and Rs. 50 crore to complete the aquarium, making it a world-class attraction," Rangaswamy said. "They can even charge an entry fee and establish a revenue-sharing model with the Zoo. We are open to this project, but no construction inside Karanji Lake will be permitted."

With the Karanji Lake tourism project now scrapped, all eyes are on whether the Tourism Department will step up to revive the aquarium and create a sustainable attraction without harming the environment.

Mysuru Zoo's aquarium project stuck in limbo for 14 years

The much-hyped world-class aquarium project at Mysuru Zoo has remained stalled for over 14 years, despite multiple attempts to revive it. The project began in 2010-2011.

The half-built structure, constructed at a cost of Rs. 4.26 crore by the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC), was handed over to the Zoo in 2018 for further development. However, progress has been non-existent.

SERIES OF FAILED ATTEMPTS

▶ **2019:** The ZAK identified a New Zealand-based firm — which built the Aquatic Life Science Park in Ahmedabad — to take over the project. A proposal was sent to the State Government, but no approval was granted.

▶ **2020:** ZAK proposed adopting the Swiss Challenge method to select bidders, allowing a transparent competitive process. This, too, failed to receive Government approval.

▶ **2024:** Zoo authorities attempted to hire transaction advisors or consultancies to prepare a Detailed Project Report (DPR) assessing the technical and financial feasibility of the Rs. 45-crore project. Despite issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP), the process fell through, leaving the project in limbo.

With no clear direction or commitment from the Government, the once-ambitious aquarium project remains a concrete shell, depriving Mysuru of a potential world-class tourist attraction.

The Zoo authorities are now urging the Tourism Department to step in and take over the project, hoping to finally break the cycle of delays and inaction.

Bharatanatyam programme held at BVB Mysuru

The disciples of Guru Vidwan Dr. Shubharani Bolar, of Bharatha Nritya Sangeetha Academy, Bengaluru, presenting a Bharatanatyam recital at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan (BVB), Mysuru Kendra, in Vijayanagar 1st Stage last evening. They were accompanied by Kavitha and Akshaya on vocal, Vid. M. Kishore on mridanga and Vid. K.S. Ganesh on flute. Picture right shows Dr. Shubharani Bolar lighting the lamp to inaugurate the programme as (from left) BVB Mysuru Hon. Treasurer Dr. A.T. Bhashyam, BVB Mysuru Vice-Chairman Dr. C. Naganna, Hon. Secretary P.S. Ganapathy, Administrative Officer S.R. Ravikumar and BVB School Principal S. Lekha Nair look on.

Swaraj means living in harmony with nature, says Dr. Sumanas Koulagi

Mysuru, Mar.16 (MK&DM)- "Swaraj truly means leading a life that does not destroy our environment and treating everyone equally, regardless of their economic or social status," said Dr. Sumanas Koulagi of Janapada Seva Trust, Melukote.

He was delivering a talk on 'Development as Swaraj – Towards a Sustainable and Equitable Future,' organised by Mysore Open Forum (MOF) at Kalpakshetra auditorium in Vijayanagar Fourth Stage in city this morning.

Explaining the concept in his own words, Dr. Sumanas emphasised that Swaraj advocates using eco-friendly domestic products, fostering a peaceful and contented life.

"A life connected to nature and built on equality is at the core of this idea. Education, in this framework, is not just about earning certificates but acquiring knowledge that strengthens society on equal terms. The concept also highlights self-sufficiency and sustainability," he said.

Criticising the current model of development, he pointed out that it has widened the gap between the rich and the poor while severely damaging the environment. "This unsustainable growth is depleting precious natural resources, endangering future generations, and pushing us toward catastrophe. Inequity and imbalance are growing at an alarming rate, making the need for a sustainable Swaraj-based approach more urgent than ever," he warned.

Dr. Sumanas Koulagi delivering a talk on 'Development as Swaraj-Towards a Sustainable and Equitable Future' in city this morning.

Dr. Sumanas further noted that the rampant consumerism and obsession with material wealth are leading society to destruction. In this context, he highlighted the relevance of *Shaswatha Arthikathe,* a Kannada book by J.C. Kumarappa, who was an associate of Mahatma Gandhi's secretary. The book, he said, provides profound insights into ethics, morality, human relationships, mutual respect, and sustainability.

The event was attended by *Star of Mysore* and *Mysuru Mithra* Editor-in-Chief Dr. K.B. Ganapathy, retired Joint Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat of the Government of India Ravi Joshi, Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Sudhir Vombatkere, G. Venkatesh Kumar, Ravishankar Bale, M.C. Chandrashekar, K.V. Srinivas, Dr. Latha Biddappa and others.

Boy dies after eating Holi dinner

(Continued from page 1)

The food was served as dinner on March 14. A businessman from Malavalli had organised a grand Holi celebration at a different venue.

Leftover food from the event was later distributed to the 29 orphaned children residing at the hostel run by Gokul Educational Institution. Among the 29 students, only two are local, while the rest are from Meghalaya and Nepal, being fed and educated by the institution.

By Saturday morning, Mar. 15, nine children began showing symptoms of food poisoning and were treated at the nearby Thalagavadi Primary Health Centre. However, their condition worsened overnight, and by Sunday morning, severe complications forced their emergency admission to Malavalli Taluk General Hospital.

Among the affected was Kerlang, whose condition deteriorated rapidly and died later. The children were later shifted to the Mandya Institute of Medical Sciences (MIMS) for specialised treatment. Soon after, all 29 students developed complications and were transferred to MIMS for advanced care.

Mandya Deputy Commissioner (DC) Dr. Kumara and Superintendent of Police (SP) Mallikarjuna Baladandi and other officials visit the residential school in T. Kagepura village, Malavalli taluk, where the food poisoning incident took place.

The affected children are being treated under the supervision of Taluk Health Officer Dr. P. Veerabhadrappa and General Hospital Administrator Dr. Sanjay.

Mandya Deputy Commissioner (DC) Dr. Kumara and Superintendent of Police (SP) Mallikarjuna Baladandi visited both the hostel and the hospitals to take stock of the situation. District Health Officer (DHO) Dr. Mohan and Tahsildar S.V. Lokesh also visited the hospital to monitor the treatment.

With their condition deteriorating, over 10 children remain under intensive care at MIMS, while others are recuperating under medical supervision. DHO Dr. Mohan confirmed to *Star of Mysore* that the businessman had distributed leftover food from the Holi celebration to the hostel students, leading to the tragic incident.

"We have sent food samples for laboratory analysis and the contents will be examined. A case has been registered at the Malavalli Rural Police Station and action will be taken against those responsible," Dr. Mohan stated. Meanwhile, Mandya District Minister N. Chaluvarayaswamy visited MIMS today to assess the condition of the affected students.

Two youths from city killed in car accident near Chamarajanagar

Mysuru, Mar.16 (SS&DM)- Two youths from city were killed on the spot, while three others who were travelling in a car sustained injuries, when their car crashed into a roadside tree near Punajanur Check-Post on Chamarajanagar-Satyamangala Road in Chamarajanagar taluk in the early hours this morning.

The deceased youths have been identified as Jeevan and Nandan, both aged 24 years and residents of Ramabainagar in city, while the injured, who have been identified as Shashank of Ramabainagar, Dhanush of Vidyaranyapuram and Sunil Kumar of Belawadi in Gundlupet taluk, have been admitted to Chamarajangar District Hospital for treatment.

The Youths had come from Mysuru to Bejjalapalya to attend a wedding ceremony last evening and had returned to Punajanur for the night. They were headed back to the Choultry early this morning, when the accident occurred, it is learnt.

Chamarajanagar SP B.T. Kavitha and other top Police officers visited the spot.

Bengaluru Gold Smuggling Case

Ranya Rao claims innocence

Accuses DRI officials of assault, writes to DRI ADG about alleged ordeal

Bengaluru, Mar. 16 (KMS& VNS) - Kannada film actress Ranya Rao, the prime accused in a Gold smuggling case, has claimed innocence and has accused the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) officials of implicating her in the case.

Ranya Rao

Ranya, in a letter to the Additional Director General of DRI has claimed that, the DRI officials had slapped her 10-15 times during the questioning and forced her to sign on the blank and typed papers.

Further claiming that, a false case had been foisted on her, Ranya said despite knowing facts about her father (DGP Dr.K. Ramachandra Rao) not involved in the case, the DRI officials had threatened to drag his name into the case, on informing the judge of being assaulted during the course of interrogation.

The actress repeatedly claimed that she didn't have possession of any gold on her arrival at Kempegowda International Airport here, from Dubai and that she had wrongly been accused of smuggling more than 14 kg gold.

Ranya has shot back at the authorities, questioning the rationale behind discovering the gold on her in Bengaluru Airport, which was unfound during a security check at Dubai Airport.

DGP sent on compulsory leave

Meanwhile, the Karnataka Government yesterday placed DGP Dr. K RamachandraRao, step-father of Ranya Rao, on compulsory leave, a Government Order stated.

Dr. Ramachandra

"Sri. K.V. Sharath Chandra, IPS (KN-1997) Additional Director General of Police, Recruitment is placed in Concurrent Charge of the post of Chairman & Managing Director, Karnataka State Police Housing & Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd, Bengaluru with immediate effect and until further orders, Dr. K. RamachandraRao, IPS sent on compulsory leave," the order said.

It may be recalled that, Ranya Rao was arrested at Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) in Bengaluru on Mar. 3 after the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) officials found her with alleged possession of 14.2kg of gold bars worth Rs. 12.5 crore, upon her arrival from Dubai.

DRI officials have also arrested Tarun Raju, a small time Telugu film actor and close associate of Ranya Rao, on Mar. 10, who had travelled with her to Dubai.

Obituary

H.R. Nagaraju

Mysuru, Mar. 16 - H.R. Nagaraju (54), Operation Engineer at Mysore Race Club and a resident of Jayanagar, passed away this morning in city.

He leaves behind parents, wife, one daughter and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed today at the foot of Chamundi Hill, according to family sources.

NEWS BRIEFS

Youth development workshop

The University of Mysore (UoM) will be hosting 'Manasa Yuva Samvardhane - 2025,' a 2-day youth development workshop at Sri Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar Auditorium in Senate Bhavan, Manasagangothri, on Mar. 18 and 19. Mandya Deputy Commissioner Dr. Kumara will inaugurate the workshop at 10 am on Mar. 18. UoM Vice-Chancellor Prof. N.K. Lokanath will preside. Registrar M.K. Savitha, Registrar (Evaluation) Prof. N. Nagaraja and Finance Officer K.S. Rekha will be present, according to a press release.

Applications invited for part-time teachers

The Women and Child Welfare Department has invited applications from qualified teachers for appointment as part-time teachers (B.Sc-B.Ed, Physical Education/ Yoga, Arts & Crafts and Music) at Balamandiras for boys and girls and Boys Observation Home run by the Department in city. Interested candidates can obtain the application forms at the Office of the District Child Protection Officer, Anjanadri Main Road, second Phase, Vijayanagar Fourth Stage, before Mar. 18. For details, contact Ph: 0821-2543003, according to a press release.

K-CET and NEET coaching class

City's S.S. Coaching Centre, run by Sri Sharadamba Trust, located at No. 425/C, First Floor, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Road, Gayathripuram, will be conducting a nearly month-long coaching class for K-CET and NEET exams, at its premises from Mar. 20 to Apr. 15. For registration and details, contact Mob: 92417-41003, 86180-55115, according to a press release.

LS seats delimitation will hurt federal structure, claims Singhvi

Mysuru, Mar.16 (MK&DM)- AICC Spokesperson and senior Supreme Court Advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi said that the Central Government's move on delimitation of Lok Sabha Constituencies poses a threat to the federal structure of our country.

Addressing a press meet at Congress Bhavan near the city Railway Station here yesterday, Singhvi, who is also a Rajya Sabha Congress MP alleged that the Centre was only telling half truth on the delimitation exercise. Alleging that the Centre has not called a meeting of Opposition parties to discuss delimitation, he expressed apprehension about PM Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah's claims that the number of seats in Southern States would not be lessened post delimitation. Noting that the Centre has not said anything about the possible increase in the number of seats in Northern States, he stressed on the need for the Centre to take all the Opposition parties into confidence before going ahead with the delimitation exercise.

AICC Spokesperson Abhishek Manu Singhvi addressing media persons at Congress Bhavan in city yesterday as City Congress President R. Murthy, District President Dr. B.J. Vijaykumar and others look on.

Maintaining that the Congress has no objection on use of EVMs in elections, Singhvi, said that some confusions still persist regarding the election process. Urging the Election Commission to hike the EVM votes tallying percentage from 25 to 33, he said that it is unfortunate that following a Supreme Court Order, the Centre and the Election Commission of India is tallying only 5 percent of the votes polled. Such developments are a blow to the Democratic system, he argued.

Tender reservation Constitutional

Reacting to the State Government's decision of 4 percent reservation for minority communities in Government tenders up to Rs.1 crore, Singhvi maintained that the Government's decision on reservation to Muslims, SC/ STs and OBCs in Government contracts is Constitutional. The reservation has been announced keeping in mind the upliftment of OBCs and not based on religious grounds, he asserted.

Taking a dig at the Opposition BJP, Singhvi lambasted the efforts of the Opposition BJP and JD(S) to tarnish the image of CM Siddaramaiah by falsely implicating him in the MUDA alternative sites allotment scam.

Pointing out that the Lokayukta probe into the alleged scam has given a clean chit to the CM and his wife, he said that he can only argue in Courts on behalf of his clients and comment on the Court's ruling. However, he cannot say anything on the return of 14 sites by CM's wife Parvathi to MUDA after the scam broke out, he added.

Commenting on speculations doing the rounds on power sharing in the State, Singhvi said that these speculations are media created. Asserting that the change of leadership in the State is not being discussed at the party level, he reiterated that power sharing formula is only a creation of the media.

City Congress President R. Murthy, District Congress President Dr. B.J. Vijaykumar, former MLA M.K. Somashekar, party leaders and others were present.

Ensure safety or face action: SP warns hotels, resorts, lodges

Mysuru, Mar. 16 (RK&BCT)- "Do not play with the lives of your customers," warned Mysuru Superintendent of Police N. Vishnuvardhana, directing home stay, resort and lodge owners to strictly adhere to safety regulations.

Speaking at a meeting held at his Office recently, the SP stressed that the installation of CCTV cameras in hotels, lodges, home stays and resorts is mandatory and footage must be stored for at least 3 months.

Under the Public Safety Act, owners must collect identification, address and mobile numbers of guests and monitor their activities. He emphasised that special care must be taken when accommodating foreign nationals, ensuring all necessary details are recorded.

The SP issued a stern warning that if illegal activities such as DJ parties, gambling or drug use are found, strict action will be taken against the establishment owners. For resorts offering water sports, he mandated that trained lifeguards be present at all times and life jackets be provided to participants. "Your customers' lives are valuable — take no chances," he reiterated.

Additionally, he instructed owners to keep records of their staff and comply with Supreme Court guidelines, emphasising their social responsibility.

With holiday season approaching, the SP urged businesses to ensure hospitality and security for the influx of tourists. "We have no objection to you running your business, but you must uphold the dignity and honour of Mysuru by following safety guidelines and precautionary measures," he stated. Additional SPs C. Malik and L. Nagesh were also present at the meeting.

Grandfather, grand-children drown in river

Tahsildar announces Rs. 6 lakh compensation

T. Narasipur, Mar. 16- In a tragic incident, a man along with his two grand-sons got drowned in the river at Hale Tirumakoodalu village in the taluk yesterday afternoon.

The deceased have been identified as Chowdaiah (65), his grand-sons Bharat Gowda (11) and Dhanush Gowda (9), residents of Hale Tirumakoodalu village. While Bharat was studying in 5th standard his brother Dhanush was a 3rd standard student.

As the cow had given birth in the house, Chowdaiah along with Bharat and Dhanush had gone to the river to discard the placenta. After discarding the placenta near the jack-well, next to the old Cauvery River Bridge, all the three ventured into the water for a bath, during which the two boys were swept away and drowned. Chowdaiah, who saw his grand-sons getting drowned, went to their rescue but was also drowned.

Chowdaiah and his grand-sons

The bodies of all the three were fished out from the River and were shifted to the Government Hospital Mortuary for post-mortem.

Meanwhile, Tahsildar T.J. Sureshachar, on instruction from MLC Dr. Yathindra Siddharamaiah, announced a total compensation of Rs. 6 lakh (Rs. 2 lakh each to the deceased family members). The Tahsildar informed that Dr. Yathindra would give the compensation cheques when he visits the village.

T. Narasipur Police have registered a case.

Obituary

N. Nanjundappa

Mysuru, Mar. 16 - N. Nanjundappa (94), a resident of Roopanagar in Bogadi, passed away yesterday in city.

He leaves behind one son, two daughters and a host of relatives and friends. Last rites were performed at Roopanagar Burial Grounds this morning.

Sadashivaiah

Sadashivaiah, retired Superintendent at JSS College of Pharmacy, Mysuru, passed away on Mar. 13 in city.

Last rites were held at his native place Jataka, according to family sources.

Kodava Family Hockey Namme turns 25

Stage set for Muddanda Cup Hockey Festival from Mar. 28

Madikeri, Mar. 16 (PS&VNS)- The Kodava Family Hockey Namme (Festival) celebrates its 25th edition this year, with the Muddanda Cup Hockey Tournament set to begin on Mar. 28 and continue until Apr. 27. Matches will be played across three different grounds, with 370 teams already registered for the competition.

Addressing the media in Madikeri yesterday, Kodagu Hockey Academy President Pandanda K. Bopanna noted that while 360 teams participated in last year's Kundyolanda Hockey Fest, this year's registrations have already reached 370, with a few more days left for additional entries.

He announced that the inaugural ceremony will feature an exhibition match between Kodagu Hockey Academy XI and Karnataka XI. Tournament Director Badakada Deena Poovaiah and Coordinator Muddanda Roy Thammaiah will oversee the event.

Cheppudira Cariappa will serve as the main commentator, assisted by Maletira Srinivas, while Kecchettira Prasanna will be in charge of match coordination. The inauguration will also include a special felicitation ceremony honouring the Kundyolanda family, which achieved a Guinness World Record last year.

Umpire training

Hockey Academy Working President Mekerira Ravi Pemmaiah revealed that a training programme for hockey umpires will be conducted on Mar. 19 and 20 at Cauvery College, Virajpet, urging young hockey enthusiasts to participate.

Academy Vice-President Kukkera Jaya Chinnappa stated that several dignitaries, including Virajpet MLA and Chief Minister's Legal Advisor A.S. Ponnanna, Madikeri MLA Dr. Manthar Gowda, Mysuru-Kodagu MP Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar, MLC M.P. Suja Kushalappa, Rajya Sabha MP Ajay Maken, Kodagu Deputy Commissioner Vekatraja, and Kodagu SP K. Ramrajan, will attend the grand opening ceremony.

File photo

Kreeda Jyothi

Muddanda Hockey Festival Chairman Muddanda Rashin Subbaiah confirmed that matches will take place at Field Marshal K.M. Cariappa College Grounds and the Police Parade Grounds. As part of the festival's silver jubilee celebrations, a special 'Kreeda Jyothi' (Sports Torch) marathon will be held, visiting the Ainmanes (ancestral homes) of Kodava families.

The marathon will commence at 8 am on Mar. 25 from the Ainmane of the Pandanda family in Karada village, the pioneers of the Kodava Family Hockey Festival.

It will pass through eight Ainmanes in Ponnampet and surrounding areas before concluding on Mar. 28. On the inaugural day, a rally carrying the sports torch will proceed from General Thimayya Circle to Field Marshal K.M. Cariappa College Grounds, flagged off by MLA A.S. Ponnanna.

To commemorate 25 years of the festival, a women's hockey tournament has been introduced as part of the Muddanda Hockey Festival. So far, 30 women's teams have registered, and more entries are expected before the Apr. 10 deadline.

The women's matches will be played at the Police Parade Grounds in Madikeri. Star Indian hockey players Lalremsiami Hmarzote from the women's national team and Indian men's team captain Harmanpreet Singh will visit Madikeri during the tournament.

Matrimonial meet

The festival will also feature a thand-bendhu (matrimonial meet) and a quiz competition at the venue. A special cyclothon is scheduled for Apr. 26, and DJ music will entertain spectators from the pre-quarterfinal stage through the final.

An open 'Maja Run' from Field Marshal K.M. Cariappa Circle has also been planned as part of the celebrations. Parking arrangements have been made for 2,000 vehicles, and Bengaluru-based Vandana Trust will assist in waste management throughout the month-long event.

Additionally, a shooting competition will be held on Apr. 20 at Ground No. 2, featuring three categories: 50-metre .22 rifle shooting, 30-metre 12-bore gun shooting, and 15-metre air rifle egg shooting. A traditional coconut shooting competition will also be organised.

Muddanda Family President Muddanda B. Devaiah urged members of the Kodava community to participate in large numbers in the rally from General Thimayya Circle to Field Marshal K.M. Cariappa College Grounds, marking a significant milestone in the history of the Kodava Family Hockey Festival.

Mumbai Indians wins Women Premier League 2025

Mumbai Indians in jubilation after winning Women Premier League (WPL)-2025 by defeating Delhi Capitals by 8 runs at Brabourne Stadium in Mumbai yesterday.

Mumbai, Mar. 16- Mumbai Indians beat Delhi Capitals by 8 runs in the final of WPL 2025 yesterday to clinch a record second title.

Harmanpreet Kaur slammed 66 off 44 as MI posted 149 for 7 after getting an invitation to bat first at the Brabourne Stadium. Harmanpreet hit 9 fours and 2 sixes, while Nat Sciver-Brunt scored a crucial 30. Marizanne Kapp rocked MI with bowling figures of 2 for 11 in four overs before Harmanpreet and Sciver-Brunt brought MI back in the game with an 89-run stand. After this MI suffered a collapse to help DC bounce back in the game.

In the chase, MI always remained a bit ahead of DC and eventually won the last-over thriller by a narrow margin. MI had also clinched the title in the inaugural edition in 2023.

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PM SHRI KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA, MYSURU,
GITB, PRESS CAMPUS, SIDDHARTHNAGAR, MYSURU-570011
(An Autonomous Body Under MOE, Government of India)
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F.84/PM SHRI KVMysuru/2024-25/ Date: 15th March 2025

NOTICE FOR PUBLIC AUCTION OF CONDEMNED ARTICLES

The following condemned articles of the Vidyalaya will be sold through auction in the premises of PM SHRI Kendriya Vidyalaya Mysuru on **03-04-2025 between 10.00 AM to 11.00 AM.**

Interested parties may participate in the auction by depositing caution money of Rs.1000/- in form of cash one day before or on the same date before commencement of the auction.

The successful bidder has to lift the auction articles by 5.00 PM positively on the same day after depositing the Total Cost of articles. If the successful bidder withdraws himself/herself after finalization of the bid, the caution money shall be forfeited.

Details of the Auctioning Articles :

1. Computer (IT Equipment)
2. Music
3. Furniture
4. AV AIDS
5. Library
6. Physics Lab,
7. Teaching Aids
8. SUPW.

For detailed list of condemned auctioning articles, you may visit our Website: https://mysore.kvs.ac.in/

Sd/- Dr. Nutan Punj
Principal

WORD OF THE DAY

Bamboozle

Pronunciation: bam-BOO-zul (Verb)
Meaning: To bamboozle someone is to deceive, trick or confuse them.
Origin: In 1710, Irish author Jonathan Swift wrote an article on "the continual Corruption of our English Tongue" in which he complained of "the Choice of certain Words invented by some pretty Fellows." (Note that pretty originally meant "artful, clever.") Among the inventions Swift disliked was bamboozle, which was used by contemporary criminals. Beyond those who favoured the word, little is known of its early days, but the word has clearly defied Swift's assertion that "All new affected Modes of Speech ... are the first perishing Parts in any Language." With its first syllable like a sound effect, bamboozle hints at mystification or magic when it is used to mean "to confuse, frustrate, or perplex," as in "The batters were bamboozled by the pitcher's dazzling curveball."
Example: "'We're not trying to make a perfect film that's, like, got a twist: Oh my God, the coach is a ghost! We're not out to bamboozle audiences or get awards or anything,' [Taika] Waititi told Polygon. The director continued, 'We want to make a nice movie, a true story about a football team, and the only message is, "Be happy and don't live in the past."'" —Monica Mercuri, Forbes, 20 Feb. 2024.

THE ODD WORD

Thalassophobia

Fear of the ocean.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

In Over Your Head

Meaning: The phrase 'In Over Your Head' is used when one is too deeply involved with something or someone, or has more difficulties or problems than one can manage.
Origin: Most of us have been in over our heads at some point. It makes sense that the origin of the phrase 'In over your head' can be found in antiquity; it is believed to have been first used sometime during the 1600s. As few average Europeans could swim during this period, being in water deeper than one's head was to be in serious trouble.
Example: "Go ahead and lead the meeting today; I'll help you out if you get in over your head."

QUOTE BOX

Love takes off masks that we fear we cannot live without and know we cannot live within. **—James Baldwin**

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

X QQ ME

Answer: Excuse Me.

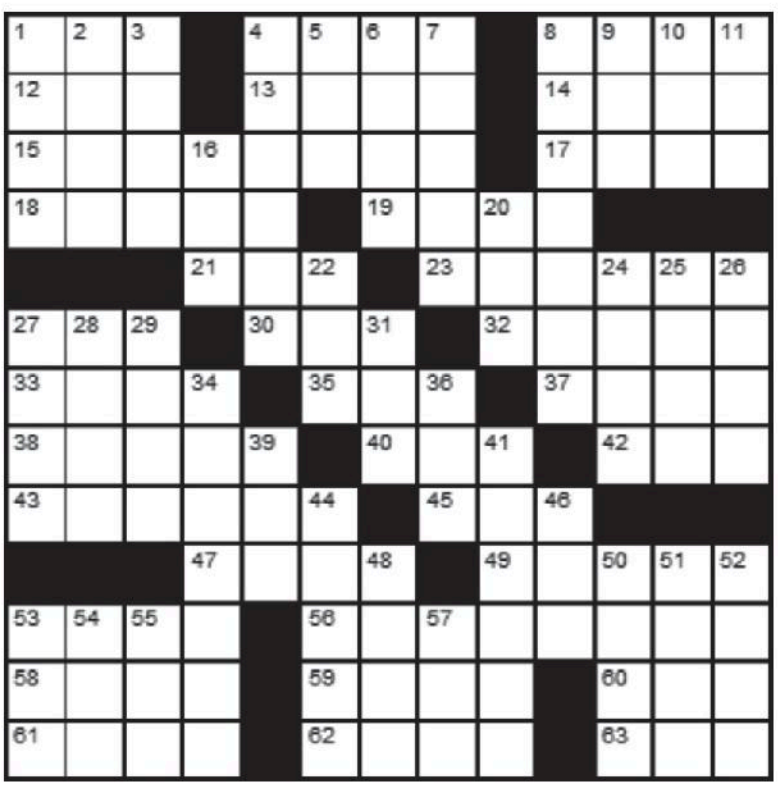
CROSS WORD

ACROSS:
1 One circuit on the race course
4 Dad
8 Elderly
12 Above ground level
13 Organic compound
14 Appealing to the senses
15 Diplomatic etiquette
17 In a short time
18 Honour a debt? (3,2)
19 Auditorium
21 1051 in Roman numerals
23 High period
27 Elite military force
30 Inventor Whitney
32 City in Japan
33 Arthropod feeler
35 Liquid Crystal Display
37 Ireland for the poet?
38 Famous mountain range in Russia
40 So far
42 Director __ Lee
43 Critique
45 Fishing implement
47 Very small particle
49 Notches
53 Small drop or spot
56 Military unit
58 Upper angle between lead and stem it springs from
59 A pool of water at the foot of a waterfall
60 Forfeit or sum paid into pool
61 Longest river in the world
62 The D in FDA
63 Two for the bard

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

S	N	A	G	■	T	R	A	M	■	L	E	I
C	A	R	R	■	R	O	M	A	■	I	E	R
A	S	T	O	■	A	M	I	C	A	B	L	E
R	H	Y	T	H	M	■	S	E	E	R	■	■
■	■	■	T	O	M	B	S	■	R	E	T	S
C	O	R	O	N	E	R	■	N	O	T	R	E
U	S	E	■	E	L	O	P	E	■	T	E	L
E	L	C	I	D	■	N	O	D	S	O	F	F
D	O	I	T	■	E	X	U	D	E	■	■	■
■	■	T	E	A	L	■	N	A	T	I	V	E
D	R	A	M	A	T	I	C	■	O	D	E	A
A	I	L	■	R	O	D	E	■	F	L	I	T
N	M	S	■	E	N	I	D	■	F	E	N	S

DOWN
1 North European
2 The site of Taj Mahal
3 Cunning manoeuvre
4 Citizenry
5 African Natl. Cong.
6 Milne's bear Winnie the ___
7 The God of Islam
8 Examine methodically
9 Alcoholic liquor
10 Prefix meaning "nature"
11 Lair
16 Stomach informally
20 Sign of the Zodiac
22 Unwell
24 Indian wrestling great ___ Singh
25 Joined by blood relationship
26 Yin's partner
27 Goad a horse
28 Swiss river - change of "area"?
29 East European
31 Very cold
34 Accommodating
36 "The" in German
39 Put or lay or stand in certain position ?
41 Moderating or tempering?
44 The planet earth
46 Not bright
48 Former Israeli P.M.
50 An early inhabitant of the British Isles
51 Be aware of
52 Ancient Greek covered walkway?
53 Prohibit
54 61 in Roman numerals
55 Slick stuff
57 African antelope



SUDOKU

	6		4	8				
		5						
		3	7					1
			1	9		6		
2	9						4	3
		1		2	4			
5					1	9		
						4		
				6	2		8	

Answer to previous puzzle

7	6	3	9	4	8	5	2	1
4	5	1	3	2	6	8	7	9
8	2	9	5	7	1	6	4	3
9	4	6	1	3	2	7	5	8
5	8	2	6	9	7	3	1	4
3	1	7	8	5	4	2	9	6
1	7	4	2	8	3	9	6	5
6	3	5	7	1	9	4	8	2
2	9	8	4	6	5	1	3	7

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

CYZQMXJ OQWU LRT SRDQ. YQVW CYZQMXJ

OQWU LRT SRDQ FRXZQJ.

TODAY'S CLUE: T EQUALS U

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: Be nice to your kids. They'll choose your nursing home.

MOVIE LOVERS

NOW SHOWING - SINGLE SCREEN THEATRES

- **Gayathri Theatre** — **Ph: 2443568**
  Appu (K) - 4 Shows
- **Mahadeshwara Theatre** — **Mob: 99008-20093**
  Sankranthiki Vasthunam (Te) - 4 Shows
- **Woodlands Theatre** — **Ph: 2422871**
  Bheema (K) - 4 Shows
- **Padma Theatre** — **Ph: 2521923**
  Gagana Kusuma (K) - 2 Shows; *Robber (Ta)* - 2 Shows
- **Thibbadevi Theatre** — **Ph: 2452958**
  Duster (Ta) - 4 Shows
- **Prabha Theatre** — **Mob: 98454-14691**
  Bhagiratha (K) - 4 Shows
- **Sangam Theatre** — **Ph: 2520494**
  Court: State vs A Nobody (Te) - 4 Shows
- **Lido Theatre** — **Ph: 2420885**
  Daaku Maharaaj (Te) - 4 Shows
- **Rajkamal Theatre** — **Ph: 2423554**
  Sweetheart (Ta) - 4 Shows
- **Balaji Theatre** — **Mob: 98863-25207**
  Badass Ravikumar (H) - 3 Shows

DRC CINEMAS — Ph: 4240422, 4241800

The Diplomat (H)	(S-1)	10 am, 12.50 pm, 7 pm
	(S-3)	10.25 pm
Interstellar (E)	(S-1)	3.40 pm, 9.50 pm
Novocaine (E)	(S-2)	10.30 am, 10.20 pm
Dragon (Ta)	(S-2)	1 pm
	(S-3)	10 am
Court: State vs A Nobody (Te)	(S-2)	4.10 pm
Dilruba (Te)	(S-2)	7.15 pm
Sweetheart (Ta)	(S-3)	1.05 pm
Ah (K)	(S-3)	4.10 pm
Chhaava (H)	(S-3)	7.10 pm
Appu (K)	(S-4)	10.40 am, 1.30 pm, 4.15 pm 7 pm, 9.45 pm

MYSURU VISION CINEMAS — Ph: 0821 - 2973519

Forest (K)	(S-1)	1.30 pm
Perusu (Ta)	(S-1)	6.30 pm
Sweetheart (Ta)	(S-1)	9.15 pm
Appu (K)	(S-2)	10.30 am, 1.15 pm 4.15 pm, 7 pm
	(S-3)	9.15 pm
Dilruba (Te)	(S-2)	9.25 pm
Chhaava (H)	(S-3)	6.10 pm

PVR CINEMAS — 4K Dolby 7.1

Nexus Centre City Mall, 2nd Floor. Mob: 8951357139

The Diplomat (H)	:	9.55 am, 1.10 pm, 3.50 pm, 7.05 pm, 10 pm
Appu (K)	:	10.10 am, 12.50 pm, 4.05 pm, 6.45 pm
Court: State vs A Nobody (Te)	:	10.10 am, 6.55 pm
Fanaa (H)	:	11 am
Novocaine (E)	:	11 am, 4.40 pm
Interstellar (E)	:	11.05 am, 5.50 pm, 9.15 pm
Perusu (Ta)	:	1.15 pm
Chhaava (H)	:	1.20 pm, 7 pm
Dune: Part Two (E)	:	2.30 pm, 10.30 pm
Taare Zameen Par (H)	:	3 pm
Dilruba (Te)	:	3.50 pm
Talaash (H)	:	7 pm
Inn Galiyon Mein (H)	:	9.45 pm
Sweetheart (Ta)	:	10 pm
Dragon (Ta)	:	10.20 pm

1st Floor, Garuda Mall. Mob: 9901373210

Appu (K)	:	9.30 am, 12.30 pm, 3.30 pm 6.30 pm, 9.30 pm
Court: State vs A Nobody (Te)	:	10.05 am, 1.20 pm
Sweetheart (Ta)	:	10.20 am, 4.25 pm
The Diplomat (H)	:	10.50 am, 1.45 pm, 4.40 pm 7.35 pm, 10.30 pm
Murmur (Ta)	:	1.10 pm
Forest (K)	:	4.05 pm
Dragon (Ta)	:	7.05 pm
Perusu (Ta)	:	7.25 pm
Dilruba (Te)	:	10 pm
Chhaava (H)	:	10.15 pm

CSIR-CFTRI Mysuru to host a Network Meeting on Probiotics and Fermented Foods

Mysuru, Mar. 16- The Department of Microbiology and Fermentation Technology, Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI), Mysuru, has organised a network meeting on probiotics, postbiotics and fermented foods in collaboration with the BioNEST on Apr. 11.

This network meeting brings together experts, industry professionals, researchers and enthusiasts in the field of probiotic products. The event focuses on the latest advancements, innovative applications and emerging trends in probiotics, including their role in gut health, immune support and overall well-being.

Participants will engage in discussions, presentations and interactive sessions, fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange. The meeting also provides an opportunity to explore new product developments, regulatory challenges and market opportunities, promoting partnerships and growth within the probiotics industry.

Targeted participants of this event are members of probiotics-based startups and enterprises, clinicians, gut microbiome-related researchers, academicians, nutritionists, food scientists, etc.

This event also opens avenues for the participants, including new networking and collaborations. This also helps the participants understand innovation in probiotic-based products, discuss the challenges with researchers and experts, showcase developed products to other entrepreneurs and understand the regulatory aspects and face-to-face interaction with all possible stakeholders.

Participation in the event is restricted to selected participants registered for the event. Registration is free but mandatory (Register using the link available on the CSIR-CFTRI website). For any inquiry, write to: ***cftri75platinum@gmail.com,*** according to a press release.

EVENTS TODAY (MARCH 16)

- **Phoenix International Academy:** 'Fresh Look at Feminism' event, Phoenix International Academy, Mysuru, **4 pm to 7 pm.**
- **Sri Thyagaraja Sangeetha Sabha Charitable Trust:** Classical music concert in memory of Venu Vidwan A.V. Prakash, flute recital by Vid. L.V. Mukund, accompanied by Vid. Vaibhava Ramani on violin, Vid. H.L. Shivashankar Swamy on mridanga and Vid. M.R. Manjunath on ghata, Sri Vidyabharathi Prarthana Mandira, Sri Chandramouleeshwara Temple, V.V. Mohalla, **6 pm.**
- **Sri Sathya Sai University for Suman Excellence, Yeliyur Mandya:** Nadopasana, a Medley of Classical, Folk, Vocal & Instrumental Music by talented members, Kalpa Kshetra, Vijayanagar 4th Stage, 1st Phase, **6 pm.** [Mob: 94498-19536]
- **Rangayana, Mysuru:** Staging of play 'Mr. Bogies,' directed by H.K. Dwarakanath, Bhoomigeeta, Rangayana, **6.30 pm.**
- **Avadhoota Datta Peetham:** 4k Projection Mapping on 45-ft tall Karya Siddhi Hanuman statue, Sri Ganapathy Sachchidananda (SGS) Ashram, Dattanagar, Nanjangud Road, **(3 Shows) 7.10 pm, 7.40 pm and 8.10 pm.** [Note: If rain or wind persists shows will be cancelled]

EVENTS TOMORROW (MARCH 17)

- **Teresian College:** Inauguration of two-day National Conference on 'Consumer Behaviour: Trends and Challenges,' Mysore University VC Prof. N.K. Lokanath and Sri Sairam Institute of Management Studies Director Prof. K. Maran chief guests, College Director Dr. Sr. Juanita presides, Ave Maria Golden Jubilee Auditorium, Teresian College, **10 am.**
- **JSS Mysore Urban Haat:** Gandhi Shilp Bazaar - Handloom and Handicrafts Exhibition, JSS Mysore Urban Haat, Hebbal, **10 am to 9 pm.**
- **Sahara Arts & Crafts:** Shopping Festival, Scouts and Guides Grounds, behind Old DC office, **10.30 am to 9.30 pm.**

Excels in Athletics

P. Chiranth

Mysuru, Mar. 16- P. Chiranth, a 1st PUC Commerce student of Trinity College, Mysuru, representing Karnataka, has won gold medal in 100 mts Running Race at the 20th National Youth Athletics Championship 2025 held at Patna, Bihar, on Mar. 10, clocking an impressive time of 10.89 seconds.

This outstanding performance has earned Chiranth a spot in the Asian Games 2025, marking a significant milestone in his athletic journey.

INOX LIVE the MOVIE

Mall of Mysore - Mob: 7829999465

Chhaava (H)	:	9.55 am, 4.10 pm, 7 pm, 10.30 pm
Appu (K)	:	10 am, 1 pm, 4 pm, 7.30 pm, 10.20 pm
The Diplomat (H)	:	10.15 am, 1.15 pm, 4.10 pm, 7.05 pm
Novocaine (E)	:	11.10 am, 7.05 pm
Sweetheart (Ta)	:	1.10 pm
Perusu (Ta)	:	1.35 pm
Mickey 17 (E)	:	4.10 pm
Court: State vs A Nobody (Te)	:	9.30 pm
Dilruba (Te)	:	10 pm

INOX Centro Mysore - Mob: 9606976757

Chhaava (H)	:	9.55 am, 7.10 pm, 10.30 pm
The Diplomat (H)	:	10.05 am, 1 pm, 4.15 pm, 6.55 pm
Appu (K)	:	10.35 am, 1.15 pm, 3.55 pm 7.10 pm, 9.50 pm
Perusu (Ta)	:	10.50 am, 4.35 pm
Ah! (K)	:	1.25 pm
Sweetheart (Ta)	:	1.35 pm, 10.10 pm
Court: State vs A Nobody (Te)	:	4.10 pm, 10.20 pm
Dilruba (Te)	:	7.15 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there is no minimum audience of 15.

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- Vegetables
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- Ice-creams
- Mutton
- Chicken
- Sea Food
- Meat (Sausage, Etc)
- Cleaning Supplies
- F&B Catering Supplies
- General Stationary
- Groceries/Provisions (Rice/Oil Etc)
- AC + Freezer spare supplies & Electricals (LED Bulbs, Fittings Etc)
- Plumbing Supplies
- Paints
- Scrap Clearance
- Frozen Items
- Namkeen items & Bakery Supplies

All vendors are to comply with FSSAI Act/GST/Shops & Establishments Act.
The right to select or reject any tender without assigning any reason thereof, reserved.

- Last date for application: 20 March, 2025
- Last date for receiving sealed application: 25 March, 2025
- Cost of application (direct) per item: Rs.500/-

Contact : Resort Manager
Kaynes Hotel Pvt Ltd
#85-87 BEML Road, Hootagalli Industrial Area, Mysore-570 018, Karnataka, India
Phone: 8105392639 / 9686666694
Email: purchase@silentshoresresort.com

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Inauguration Ceremony
Date: 16-03-2025

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& Sri. G.D. Harish Gowda

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby issued to the general public that **R.BALAJI SINGH** S/o. M. Rama Singh, residing at: No. 63, Banashankari Nilaya, Yalachanahalli, J.P. Nagar, Bangalore South, Bangalore-560078, has agreed to sell the SCHEDULE PROPERTY to my client.

Any person/s asserting any right, title, interest or claim on the SCHEDULE PROPERTY or any part thereof, is hereby required to communicate the same in writing to the undersigned, along with documentary evidence, within Seven (07) days from the date of this Public Notice, failing which the transaction with respect of the SCHEDULE PROPERTY will be completed on the basis that there are no claims of whatsoever nature with respect of the SCHEDULE PROPERTY.

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Sd/- **Prakash Kalappa. M.N**
KAR-1996-2000, Advocate & Legal Consultant, # 2-3, First Floor, PRI Complex, 67/7A, New Sayyaji Rao Road, Fort Mohalla, Mysore- 570004.
Cell: 93431 12535
E-mail: mnprakashkalappa@gmail.com
Place: MYSURU, Date: 15.03.2025

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